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Postal Service proposes to assess penalties, fines, deductions, or damages. This part does not limit other remedies available to the Postal Service, including such remedies as summary action to withhold tender of mail to protect the public interest in the event of major irregularities such as theft, deliberate loss, damage, abandonment of the mail or service failures by the air carrier.

PART 931—RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING THE COMPROMISE OF OBLIGATIONS

§931.1 Compromise of obligations.

Any proposition of compromise shall be submitted in writing, and the amount offered in compromise shall be deposited with the Manager, Accounting Division or the appropriate postal data center. If the offer in compromise is rejected the amount deposited will be returned. The amount of a compromise offer must be tendered unconditionally for deposit pending the consideration of acceptance. Checks and drafts cannot be accepted as offers in compromise when they bear endorsements or instructions to the effect that the acceptance of such checks or drafts constitutes settlement in full of the claim, fine, penalty, or liability in connection with which the offer is made, except that such checks or drafts may be accepted when they are accompanied with a written waiver of the endorsements or instructions printed thereon. Offers in compromise should be transmitted or delivered to the office or officer of the Postal Service from whom demand is received for payment of the amount due.

(39 U.S.C. 401)

 $[26~\mathrm{FR}~11662,~\mathrm{Dec.}~6,~1961.~\mathrm{Redesignated}$ at 33FR 6291, Apr. 25, 1968]

Rules of Procedure Before the **Postal Inspection Service**

PART 946—RULES OF PROCEDURE RELATING TO THE DISPOSITION OF STOLEN MAIL MATTER AND PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE POSTAL INSPECTION **SERVICE** FOR USE AS EVIDENCE

Sec.

946.1 Scope of part.

946.2 Disposition of property of apparent owners.

946.3 Contraband and property subject to court order.

946.4 Disposition of property of unknown owners.

946.5 Disposition of property having a value of less than \$200.

946.6 Disposition of abandoned property; additional period for filing claims.

946.7 Submission of claims.

946.8 Determination of claims.

946.9 Reconsideration of claims.

946.10 Record retention. 946.11 Disposition of property declared abandoned.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552(a); 39 U.S.C. 401(2), (5), (8), 404(a)(7), 2003, 3001.

SOURCE: 53 FR 6986, Mar. 4, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

§ 946.1 Scope of part.

This part prescribes procedures governing the disposition of recovered stolen mail matter and any other property (real, personal, tangible or intangible) obtained by the Postal Inspection Service for possible use as evidence after the need to retain such property no longer exists. Property obtained by Postal Inspectors which appears to have been loose in the mails but is not retained for use as evidence, except unlawful matter, must be treated in accordance with postal regulations concerning disposition of dead mail (see Domestic Manual (DMM) 159.4). Unlawful matter must be disposed of in accordance with §946.3.

§946.2 Disposition of property of apparent owners.

Where an apparent owner of property subject to this part is known, the Chief Postal Inspector or delegate will mail, by certified mail to the apparent owner's last known address, written notice